

<u>DB Name</u>	<u>Query</u>	<u>Hit Count</u>	<u>Set Name</u>
USPT	l12 and ((settop box) or (set top box) or (cable near2 box))	1	<u>L17</u>
USPT	l12 near10 ((settop box) or (set top box) or (cable near2 box))	0	<u>L16</u>
USPT	l12 and (schedule or guide or scheduling)	8	<u>L15</u>
USPT	l12 and (l7 or l10)	1	<u>L14</u>
USPT	l12 same (address or addresses)	1	<u>L13</u>
USPT	feed generator	129	<u>L12</u>
USPT	l3 and l10	0	<u>L11</u>
USPT	(348/906 or 348/461)[ccls]	313	<u>L10</u>
USPT	l3 and l7	0	<u>L9</u>
USPT	l3 and l6	3	<u>L8</u>
USPT	709/235[ccls]	137	<u>L7</u>
USPT	l3 near10 (schedule or guide or scheduling)	3	<u>L6</u>
USPT	l3 near10 ((program or programming) near2 (schedule or guide or scheduling))	0	<u>L5</u>
USPT	l3 near10 ((settop box) or (set top box) or (cable near2 box))	0	<u>L4</u>
USPT	selectively near1 (configurable or reconfigurable or configure or reconfigure)	398	<u>L3</u>
USPT	(5619274 or 5550576 or 5388097 or 5521631)[pn]	4	<u>L2</u>
USPT	(5742677 or 5630119 or 5801747 or 5886690 or 5798785 or 5760821)[pn]	6	<u>L1</u>

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Help

Logout

Main Menu

Search Form

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Show S Numbers

Edit S Numbers

Generate Collection

Search Results - Record(s) 1 through 1 of 1 returned.

 1. Document ID: US 5666645 A

Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

same assignee

Sep 9, 1997

Thomas et al.

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5666645 A

TITLE: Data management and distribution system and method for an electronic television program guide

BSPR:

Current data processing systems for cable television system headends and other EPG providers vary widely in the manner in which they receive and process data. Whereas some systems may be configured to receive an entire file, such as the "IPG" computer from General Instruments, others may require that the data be broken up into transactions used to update a database resident on the data processor, such as the Information Services Processor (ISP) from Scientific-Atlanta. Another scenario under development for the distribution of an EPG is the utilization of a continuous or "live" digital data stream. The data stream is transmitted to the EPG provider, which in turn distributes it to the various system subscribers. Each subscriber is provided with appropriate software and data processing capabilities to extract only the schedule information for programs carried by the local program and EPG provider. One example of such a system is the DigiCable feed generator designed for TCI. The DigiCable system continuously generates a digital stream of EPG data and transmits it to DigiCable compatible EPG providers. The data format and transmission protocol for this type of system are very different from those of a system such as the ISP and IPG that transmit data to program distributors on a periodic basis. Therefore, the EPG distributor's system must be capable of generating different data feeds for each of the different types of systems used by different EPG providers.

DEPR:

The configuration subsystem 50 is used to maintain information in the database related to distribution of the EPG to the various EPG providers. This data includes information such as lists of headends receiving each different edition of the EPG, schedules for creation of the different editions, operational parameters associated with the different target environments, and any other target-defined data needed to generate the different editions and feeds. The configuration data maintained by the configuration subsystem is consulted by the other subsystems while performing their tasks. For example, the configuration data is consulted by the ADC processor in performing the function of collecting data for the database, the text fit processor to determine the field sizes for the different target devices, and the edition and feed generator subsystems for scheduling the creating and transport of editions and feeds.

DEPR:

The DigiCable feed requires high availability because it operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week with no down time. It is preferable that the feed generation platform be different from the main database 90 platform and that the connection from the feed extraction and feed composition processes to the main database 90 be client-server. This permits the generation of the continuous data stream for